

higher learning described in section 3501(a)(5) of this title is the amount of the fee charged for the test.

“(2) The number of months of entitlement charged in the case of any individual for a test described in paragraph (1) is equal to the number (including any fraction) determined by dividing the total amount of educational assistance paid such individual for such test by the full-time monthly institutional rate of educational assistance, except for paragraph (1), such individual would otherwise be paid under this chapter.

“(3) In no event shall payment of educational assistance under this subsection for a test described in paragraph (1) exceed the amount of the individual's available entitlement under this chapter.”.

SEC. 6. INCREASE IN MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF HOME LOAN GUARANTY FOR CONSTRUCTION AND PURCHASE OF HOMES AND ANNUAL INDEXING OF AMOUNT.

(a) MAXIMUM LOAN GUARANTY BASED ON 100 PERCENT OF FREDDIE MAC CONFORMING LOAN RATE.—Section 3703(a)(1) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “\$60,000” each place it appears in subparagraphs (A)(i)(IV) and (B) and inserting “the maximum guaranty amount (as defined in subparagraph (C))”.

(b) DEFINITION.—Such section is further amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) In this paragraph, the term ‘maximum guaranty amount’ means the dollar amount that is equal to 25 percent of the Freddie Mac conforming loan limit limitation determined under section 305(a)(2) of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Act (12 U.S.C. 1454(a)(2)) for a single-family residence, as adjusted for the year involved.”.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 380—HONORING THE DETROIT PISTONS ON WINNING THE NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIP ON JUNE 15, 2004.

Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Ms. STABENOW) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 380

Whereas the Detroit Pistons finished second in the Central Division of the Eastern Conference and won the National Basketball Association (NBA) World Championship for the first time since winning back to back Championships in 1989 and 1990;

Whereas the Detroit Pistons is the first Eastern Conference team to win the Championship since 1998;

Whereas the Detroit Pistons by defeating the heavily-favored Los Angeles Lakers 4 games to 1 showed grit, determination, discipline, and unity, thereby securing their third National Basketball Association World Championship;

Whereas the Detroit Pistons completed an incredible season with strong performances from many key players, including Finals Most Valuable Player Chauncey Billups, two-time Defensive Player of the Year Ben Wallace, a new head coach in Larry Brown and savvy front office executives such as Joe Dumars;

Whereas Detroit Pistons owner Bill Davidson became the first owner to win an NBA and WNBA championship, as well as the Stanley Cup championship, in the span of 12 months;

Whereas President of Basketball Operations Joe Dumars built a cohesive championship team through smart draft choices, key free agent signings and bold trades, including the mid-season acquisition of Rasheed Wallace, a vital part of the Pistons' impenetrable frontline;

Whereas Detroit Pistons Head Coach Larry Brown, the oldest coach to win an NBA Championship, became the first coach to win both an NBA and NCAA championship;

Whereas each member of the Detroit Pistons roster, including Chauncey Billups, Elden Campbell, Tremaine Fowlkes, Darvin Ham, Richard Hamilton, Lindsey Hunter, Mike James, Darko Milicic, Mehmet Okur, Tayshaun Prince, Ben Wallace, Rasheed Wallace, Corliss Williamson, made meaningful contributions to the success of the basketball team and proved once again that the whole can be greater than the sum of its parts;

Whereas Detroit Pistons fans made a meaningful contribution to the success of their basketball team through their energy and passion which was on display throughout the regular season and playoffs at the Palace at Auburn Hills;

Whereas the Detroit Pistons became the first team in NBA Finals history to win games 3, 4, and 5 on their home court since the NBA returned to its current format in 1985;

Whereas in honor of the Detroit Pistons' championship, the Palace of Auburn Hills is officially changing its address to Four Championship Drive; and

Whereas the Detroit Pistons have demonstrated great strength, skill, and perseverance during the 2003-2004 season and have made the entire State of Michigan proud: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the Detroit Pistons on winning the 2004 National Basketball Association Championship and recognizes all the players, coaches, support staff, and fans who were instrumental in this achievement; and

(2) directs the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the Detroit Pistons for appropriate display.

SENATE RESOLUTION 381—RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS OF RAY CHARLES TO THE WORLD OF MUSIC

Mr. NELSON of Florida (for himself, Mr. MILLER, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. GRAHAM of Florida, and Mr. LEVIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 381

Whereas Ray Charles, born Ray Charles Robinson on September 23, 1930, to Bailey and Aretha Robinson in Albany, Georgia, was one of the greatest musical artists of the United States;

Whereas Ray Charles, who as an infant moved with his family to Greenville, Florida, and, after suffering an illness that left him blind, attended the St. Augustine School for the Deaf and Blind from 1937 to 1945, where he learned not only how to read Braille, but how to write music and play the piano, trumpet, clarinet, and alto saxophone;

Whereas during the course of his 58-year career, Ray Charles defied easy classification, as his music spanned all genres, and many talented musicians from the world of rhythm and blues, popular music, jazz, gospel, country, and rock and roll have noted his strong influence on their careers;

Whereas his talent has long been recognized by the recording industry and his

many fans, as he has received 12 Grammy Awards, with the first in 1960 and the most recent award in 1993, and had 32 of his songs reach the national Billboard's top 40 pop charts between 1957 and 1971;

Whereas his influence and contributions to the world are evidenced by the numerous honors he has received from organizations, and institutions, including: the Blues Foundation's Hall of Fame, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, Songwriters Hall of Fame, Georgia Music Hall of Fame, Florida Artists Hall of Fame, a Lifetime Achievement Award as part of the Black Achievement Awards television show sponsored by Johnson Publishing Company, a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, the Helen Keller Personal Achievement Award from the American Foundation for the Blind, and an honorary doctorate of fine arts from the University of South Florida in Tampa;

Whereas Ray Charles has received praise from Republican and Democratic Administrations with the adoption of “Georgia on My Mind” as the Georgia State song in 1979, an invitation in 1984 to perform at the Republican National Convention and President Reagan's inaugural ball in 1985, recognition in 1986 as a legend by the Kennedy Center Honors, and the presentation of a National Medal of Arts by President Clinton in 1993;

Whereas Ray Charles was a great humanitarian and activist who provided financial support to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., during the civil rights struggle, and joined with other recording artists to record “We Are the World”, a project that brought world awareness and financial assistance to the millions dying from starvation in Africa;

Whereas during the course of his life he persevered, overcoming the tremendous obstacles that he encountered in the early stages of his career due to racism and prejudice because of his blindness, to become one of the greatest and defining musical talents of all time; and

Whereas this great American, Ray Charles, died on June 10, 2004: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes Ray Charles as one of the greatest American musicians of all time;

(2) honors Ray Charles for his contributions to music, culture, community, and the United States;

(3) offers its appreciation to Ray Charles for sharing his musical gifts with the world; and

(4) extends its deepest sympathy to the family and the loved ones of Ray Charles.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3452. Mr. WARNER proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2400, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3452. Mr. WARNER proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2400, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, and for other purposes; as follows: